

DUXBURY Clipper

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James F. Queeny, 94

James F. Queeny, of Duxbury, died peacefully at his home in Duxbury on Jan. 3, 2015 surrounded by his loving wife of 71 years and his five children and grandchildren. He was 94 years old. Born in Quincy on Jan. 30, 1920, Mr. Queeny was the son of James F. Queeny and Caroline A. Queeny. He was a graduate of Thayer Academy and attended Colgate University prior to his enlistment in the United States Naval Reserve. On May 15, 1943, Mr. Queeny married his wife, the former Charlotte H. Fitzpatrick. During World War II, Lieutenant Queeny served as executive officer aboard PT 508 and saw action in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters. Mr. Queeny participated in the invasion of Normandy and subsequent combat operations in the Channel Islands, and then in the Pacific Theater in the Philippine Islands.

Following the war, Mr. Queeny continued his studies at Harvard College. He graduated with the Class of 1947. His mentor was Harvard Professor and US Naval Historian Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison, who included Mr. Queeny's report of operations, "The Far Shore," in his book, "The Invasion of France and Germany," which was part of the Official Naval History of World War II. In 1948, Mr. Queeny received his Master's Degree from Trinity College, Dublin Ireland. Subsequently, he served as a Naval Intelligence Officer at the Pentagon before moving his family to Duxbury in 1952. During the following 32 years, Mr. Queeny taught in the Duxbury Schools. He is remembered by his former students and colleagues as a compassionate and guiding gentleman of scholarship.

Mr. Queeny was a visible and active member of the Duxbury community, serving as Trustee of the Duxbury Free Library and Co-Chairman of the Town's Bicentennial Committee. He was a member of the Duxbury Rural & Historical Society, Duxbury Frostbite Society, Duxbury Wharf Rats, and Ex-Navos. Mr. Queeny was an honorary member of the Duxbury Yacht Club where he was sailing master and member of the race committee for over 50 years. James is survived by his wife Charlotte H. Queeny of Duxbury, his daughter Charlotte Q. Vena and her husband Edward F. Vena of Duxbury, his son James F. Queeny III of Duxbury, daughter Elizabeth A. Queeny of Duxbury, daughter Suzanne L. Ragsdale and her husband T. Smith Ragsdale of Georgetown SC, and daughter Caroline M. Queeny of Chatham. James was the loving grandfather of Elizabeth R. Vena of Boston; Edward F. Vena and his wife Jeanette Mundt of Brooklyn, NY; Hart Peary and her husband Scott J. Peary of Arlington Va.; Warner G. Queeny of Boston; Caroline M. Queeny of Medford, Caroline T. Russo of Kittery Me.; Samuel M. Little and Baldwin M. Little of Charleston SC. He is also survived by one great grandson, Charles R. Peary.

A memorial celebration of Mr. Queeny's life will be held at a later date. Donations in his memory may be made to the Duxbury Bay Maritime School, 457 Washington Street, Duxbury, MA 02332 or to Cranberry Area Hospice, 36 Cordage Park Circle, Suite 326, Plymouth MA 02360. For online guestbook please visit our website, macdonaldfuneralhome.com

